



SIGNIFICANT PROVISIONS OF STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE LAWS, JANUARY 1, 1994

PREPARED FOR READY REFERENCE, CONSULT THE STATE LAW AND STATE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AGENCY FOR AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION

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State	BENEFITS									COVERAGE Size of firm (1 worker in specified time and/or size of payroll) ¹¹	TAXES 1994 Taxable wage base
	Qualifying wage or employment (number x wba or as indicated) ¹	Waiting week ²	Computation of wba (fraction of hqw or as indicated) 1/3/	Wba for total unemployment ⁴		Earnings disregarded ⁵	Duration in 52-week period				
				Min. ⁶	Max. ⁶		Proportion of base-period wages ⁶	Benefit weeks for total unemployment ⁷			
								Min. ⁸	Max. ⁸		
Ala.	1 - 1/2 x hqw	0	1/24 of average of 2 highest qtrs.	\$22	\$165	\$15	1/3	16+	26	20 wks.	\$ 8,000
Alaska	\$1,000; wages in 2 qtrs.	1	4.4-0.9% of annual wages, + \$24 per dep. up to \$72	44-68	212-284	3/4 wages over \$50	Weighted schedule of bpw in relation to hqw	16 ⁷	26 ⁷	Any time	23,800
Ariz.	1 - 1/2 x hqw; \$1,000 in HQ.	1	1/25	40	185	\$30	1/3	12+	26	20 wks.	7,000
Ark.	27 x wba; wages in 2 qtrs.	1	1/26 up to 66-2/3% of State saww	45	254	2/5	1/3	9	26	10 days	9,000
Calif.	\$1,300 in HQ or \$900 in HQ with BP wages equal to 1 - 1/4 x HQ	1 ³	1/23-1/33 ¹²	40	230	Greater of \$25 or 25% of wages	1/2	14+ ⁷	26 ⁷	Over \$100 in any qtr.	7,000
Colo.	40	1	60% of 1/26 of claimant's 2 highest qtrs. up to 50% of bpw	25	261	1/4 wba	1/3	13+	26	Any time	10,000
Conn.	40	0	1/26 of 2 highest qtrs., up to 60% of State saww + \$10 per dep. up to 1/2 wba or 5 depts.	15-25	317-367	1/3 wages	Uniform	26 ⁷	26 ⁷	20 wks.	9,000
Del.	36	0	12/	20	265 16/	Greater of \$10 or 30% of wba	1/2	24	26	20 wks.	8,500
D.C.	1 - 1/2 x hqw; not less than \$1,950; \$1,300 in 1 qtr.	1	1/26, up to 50% of State saww + \$5 per dep. up to \$20	50	335 ⁴	1/5 wages	1/2	26 ⁷	26 ⁶	Any time	9,500
Fla.	20 wks. employment at average of \$20 or more	1	1/2 claimant's saww	10	250	8 x Fed. hourly min. wage	1/2 wks. employment	10	26	20 wks.	7,000
Ga.	150% of hqw, wages in 2 qtrs. ¹⁰	0 ³	1/50 of 2 highest qtrs. ¹¹	37	185	\$30	1/4	9+	26	20 wks.	8,500
Hawaii	26; wages in 2 qtrs.	1	1/21 up to 70% of State saww	5	337	\$50	Uniform	26 ⁷	26 ⁷	Any time	25,000
Idaho	1 - 1/4 x hqw; not less than \$1,144.01 in 1 qtr.; wages in 2 qtrs.	1	1/26 up to 60% of State saww	44	235	1/2 wba	Weighted schedule of bpw in relation to hqw	10	23	20 wks. or \$300 in any qtr.	20,400

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							Proportion of base-period wages ⁶	Benefit weeks for total unemployment ⁷			
				Min. [*]	Max. [*]			Min. ⁸	Max.		
Ill.	\$1,600; \$440 outside HQ	1	49.5% of claimant aww in 2 highest qtrs. up to 49.5% of State aww ¹²	\$51	\$235-311	1/2 wba	Uniform	26	26	20 wks.	8,000
Ind.	1 - 1/4 x hqw; not less than \$2,500; \$1,500 in last 2 qtrs.	1	5% of 1st \$1,000 in HQ 4% of remaining HQ wages	50	170-192	Greater of \$3 or 20% of wba from other than BP employer	28%	14	26	20 wks.	7,000
Iowa	1 - 1/4 x hqw; not less than 1.5 x a HQ amount computed at 3.5% of the statewide aaw.	0	3/12/	31-38	211-259	1/4 wba	1/3	11+	26	20 wks.	13,900
Kans.	30; wages in 2 qtrs.	1	4.25% of hqw up to 60% of State aww	62	250	25% of wba	1/3	10	26	20 wks.	8,000
Ky.	1 - 1/2 x hqw; 8 x wba in last 2 qtrs; \$750 in 1 qtr. and \$750 in other qtrs.	0	1.185% of BP wages up to 55% of State aww	22	229	1/5 wages	1/3	15	26	20 wks.	8,000
La.	1 - 1/2 x hqw	1	1/25 of 4 qtrs. 13/17/	10	181	Lesser of 1/2 wba or \$50	27%	8	26	20 wks.	8,500
Maine	2 x annual aww in each of 2 qtrs. & 6 x annual aww in BP	1	1/22 up to 52% of State aww +\$10 per dep. up to 1/2 wba 17/	35-52	192-288	\$25	1/3	21+-22	26	20 wks.	7,000
Md.	1 - 1/2 x hqw; \$576.01 in 1 qtr; wages in 2 qtrs.	0	1/24 + \$8 per dep. up to \$40	25-33	223 ⁴	\$35	Uniform	26	26	Any time	8,500
Mass.	30; not less than \$2,400	1	1/21-1/26 up to 57.5% of State aww, + \$25 per dep. up to 1/2 wba ³	14-21	325-487	1/3 wba	36%	10 + 30	30	13 wks.	10,800
Mich.	20 wks. employment at 20 x State min. hourly wage ^{10/} 20/	0	70% of claimant's after tax earnings (ATE) up to a maximum of 58% of State aww	42	293 17/	Up to 1/2 wba ⁴	3/4 wks. employment	13+	26	20 wks. or \$1,000 in CY	9,500
Minn.	1 - 1/4 x hqw, at least \$1,000 in HQ; 15 wks. employment	1 ⁹	1/26 ¹³	38	305	Greater of \$50 or 25% of wages	1/3	10+	26	20 wks.	15,100
Miss.	40; \$780 in 1 qtr. wages in 2 qtrs.	1	1/26	30	165	\$40	1/3	13+	26	20 wks.	7,000
Mo.	1 - 1/2 x hqw; \$1,000 in 1 qtr; wages in 2 qtrs. ¹⁰	1 ⁹	4.5%	45	175	\$20	1/3	11+	26	20 wks.	8,500
Mont.	1 - 1/2 x hqw; 7% of aaw in BP or 50% of aaw.	1	1% of BP wages or 1.8% of wages in 2 HQ's up to 60% of State aww	54	217	1/2 wages in excess of 1/4 wba	Weighted schedule of bpw in relation to hqw	8	26	\$1,000 in current or preceding year	15,100

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								Min. ⁸	Max.		
Neb.	\$1,200; \$400 in each of 2 qtrs.	1	1/20-1/24	\$20	\$154	1/2 wba	1/3	20	26	20 wks.	\$ 7,000
Nev.	1 - 1/2 x hqw ¹⁸	0	1/25, up to 50% of State aww	16	230	1/4 wages	1/3	12+	26	\$225 in any qtr.	16,900
N.H.	\$2,800; \$1,200 in each of 2 qtrs.	0	0.8-1.1% of annual wages	32	196 21/	1/5 wba	Uniform	26	26	20 wks.	8,000
N.J.	20 wks. employment at 90% of aww; or 12 x aww	1 ⁹	60% of claimant's aww + d.a. up to 56-2/3% of State aww	69	347 ⁴	Greater of \$5 or 1/5 wba	3/4 wks. employment	15	26	\$1,000 in any year	17,200
N.Mex.	1 - 1/4 x hqw	1	1/26; not less than 10% nor more than 50% of State aww	39	197	1/5 wba	3/5	19	26	20 wks. or \$450 in any qtr.	13,100
N.Y.	20 wks. employment ^{10, 19}	1 ¹¹	50% of claimant's aww	40	300	11/	Uniform	26	26	\$300 in any qtr.	7,000
N.C.	1 - 1/2 x hqw not less than 6 x State aww	1	1/52 of 2 highest qtrs up to 66-2/3% of State aww	22	282	10% aww in 2 highest qtrs.	Weighted schedule of bpw in relation to hqw	13-26	26	20 wks.	13,200
N. Dak.	1 - 1/2 x hqw	1	1/65 of the 2 highest qtrs; and 1/2 total wages in the 3rd qtr., up to 60% of the State aww ¹²	43	232	60% of wba	Weighted schedule of bpw in relation to hqw	12	26	20 wks.	13,000
Ohio	20 wks. employment with wages in each wk. of 27.5% of State aww	1	1/2 claimant's aww + d.a. of \$1-\$83 based on claimant's aww and number of dep. ^{1,14}	42	238-319	1/5 wba	20 x wba; wba for each qualifying wk. in excess of 20	20	26	20 wks.	8,750
Okla.	40% taxable wages and 1 - 1/2 x hqw; \$10,700	1	1/25 ¹³	16	237 18/	\$7	40% of taxable wage	20+ ¹⁴	26 ¹⁴	20 wks.	10,700
Oreg.	18 wks; not less than \$1,000 in BP	1	1.25% of bpw up to 64% of State aww	66	285	1/3 wba	1/3	5+ ⁷	26 ⁷	18 wks. or \$225 in any qtr.	19,000
Pa.	37 + - 40; \$800 in HQ and \$1,320 in BP; at least 20% of bpw outside HQ	1	1/23-1/25 up to 66-2/3% of State aww + \$5 for 1 dep; \$3 for 2d	35-40	329-337 18/	Greater of \$6 or 40% wba	At least 16 credit wks. for min., 18 for max	16	26	Any time	8,000
P.R.	40 x wba not less than \$280; \$75 in 1 qtr.; wages in 2 qtrs.	1	1/11-1/26; up to 50% of State aww	7	133	wba	Uniform	26 ⁷	26 ⁷	Any time	7,000
R.I.	18/	1	4.62% of hqw up to 67% of State aww + greater of \$10 or 5% of the benefit rate per dep. up to 5 depts.	41-51	310-387	1/5 wba	36%	15+	26	Any time	\$16,400

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				Min.*	Max.*			Min. ⁸	Max.		
S.C.	1 - 1/2 x hqw; not less than \$900; \$540 in 1 qtr.	1	1/26 up to 66-2/3% of State aww	\$20	\$203	1/4 wba	1/3	15	26	20 wks.	\$7,000
S.Dak.	\$728 in HQ; 20 x wba outside HQ	1	1/26 up to 50% of State aww	28	168	1/4 wages over \$25	1/3	18+	26	20 wks.	7,000
Tenn.	40; \$780.01 in highest 2 qtrs. ¹⁹	1	1/26-1/32 of average 2 highest qtrs.	30	185	\$30	1/4	12+	26	20 wks.	7,000
Tex.	37 x wba	1 ⁹	1/26 ¹⁶	41	245	Greater of \$5 or 1/4 wba	27%	9+	26	20 wks.	9,000
Utah	1 - 1/2 x hqw <u>10/</u>	1	1/26 up to 60% of State insured average FY weekly wage	17	248	3/10 wba	27%	10	26	\$140 in CQ in current or preceding CY	13,200
Vt.	\$1,163 in a qtr; BP wages of 40% of total HQ wages	1	<u>12/</u>	36	209	Greater of 30% of wba or \$40	Uniform	26	26	20 wks.	3,000
Va.	50; wages in 2 qtrs.	1	1/50 of the 2 highest qtrs.	65	208	\$25	1/4	12	26	20 wks.	8,000
V.I.	1 - 1/2 x hqw; \$858 in HQ or \$858 in HQ and 39 x wba in BP	1	1/26 up to 50% of State aww	32	211**	wages in excess of \$15	1/3	13+	26	Any time	22,000 **
Wash.	680 hours	1	1/25 of average of 2 highest qtrs. wages up to 70% of State aww	73	340	1/4 wages over \$5	1/3	16+- 30	30	Any time	19,900
W.Va.	\$2,200 and wages in 2 qtrs.	1	1.0% of annual wages up to 66-2/3% of State aww <u>11/</u>	24	280	\$25	Uniform	26	26	20 wks.	8,000
Wisc.	30 x wba; 8 x wba outside HQ	0	4% of hqw up to max. wba	46	243	\$20 plus 33% of wages in excess of \$20	40%	13+	26	20 wks.	10,500
Wyo.	1.4 x hqw; 8% of State aww in BP	1	4% of hqw up to 55% of State aww <u>12/</u>	40	220	Wages in excess of 50% of wba	3/10	12-26	26	\$500 in current or preceding CY	11,400

*In a few instances data shown is effective a few days after date shown.

**Possible increases were not available at press time.

¹Weekly benefit amount abbreviated in columns and footnotes as wba; base period, BP; base-period wages, bpw; fiscal year, FY; high quarter, HQ; high-quarter wages, hqw; average annual wage, aaw; average weekly wage, aww; benefit year, BY; calendar quarter, CQ; calendar year, CY; dependent, dep.; dependents allowances, da.; minimum, min.; maximum, max.; quarter, qtr.; week, wk.

²Unless otherwise noted, waiting period same for total or partial unemployment. In Ga. by interpretation. In Calif. it may be suspended by the Governor if compliance would hinder or delay the effects of any state of war emergency or state of emergency.

³When States use weighted high-quarter, annual-wage, or average weekly-wage formula, approximate fractions or percentages figured at midpoint of lowest and highest normal wage brackets. When da provided, fraction applies to basic wba. In States noted variable amounts above max. basic benefits limited to claimants with specified number of dep. and earnings in excess of amounts applicable to max. basic wba. In Ind. da. paid only to claimants with earnings in excess of that needed to qualify for basic wba and who have 1-3 depts. In Iowa, and Ohio claimants may be eligible for augmented amount at all benefit levels but benefit amounts above basic max. available only to claimants in dependency classes whose hqw or aww are higher than that required for max. basic benefit. In Mass. for claimant with aww in excess of \$66 wba computed at 1/26 of 2 highest quarters of earnings or 1/13 of highest quarter if claimant has no more than 2 quarters work.

⁴When 2 amounts given, higher includes da.. Higher for min. wba includes max. allowance for one dep.. In D.C., Md., and N.J., same max. with or without dep.

⁵In computing wba for partial unemployment, in States noted full wba paid if earnings are less than 1/2 wba; 1/2 wba if earnings are 1/2 wba but less than wba.

⁶States noted have weighted schedule with percent of benefits based on bottom of lowest and highest wage brackets.

⁷Benefits extended under State program when unemployment in State reaches specified levels; Alaska, Calif., by 50%; Conn. by 13 weeks; D.C. by 10 weeks; Oreg. by 25%. In Hawaii benefits extended by 13 weeks when a manmade or disaster causes damage to either the State as a whole or any of its counties and creates an unemployment problem involving a substantial number of persons and families. In P.R. benefits extended by 32 weeks in certain industries, occupations or establishments when special unemployment situation exists. Benefits also may be extended during periods of high unemployment by 50%, up to 13 weeks, under Federal-State Extended Compensation Program.

⁸For claimants with min. qualifying wages and min. wba. When two amounts shown, range of duration applies to claimants with min. qualifying wages in BP; longer duration applies with min. wba; shorter duration applies with max. possible concentration of wages in HQ; therefore highest wba possible for such BP earnings.

⁹Waiting period compensable if claimant unemployed after 9 consecutive weeks, Mo.; when benefits are payable for third week following waiting period, N.J.; after benefits paid equaling 3 x wba, Tex., after any 4 weeks in BY, Minn..

¹⁰Or 15 weeks in last year and 40 weeks in last 2 years of aww of \$80 or more, N.Y.; 14 weeks of employment and BP wages equal to 20 x the State aww, Mich.; BP wages in 2 qtrs. of 1-1/2 x the min. Missouri taxable wage base for that year, Mo.; 20 wks. of work with 5% of monetary BP wage requirement (8% of insured average FY wage for preceding FY in BP) in each week, Utah.; wages in 2 qtrs., 40 x wba in BP, Ga..

¹¹For N.Y., waiting period is 4 effective days accumulated in 1-4 weeks; partial benefits 1/4 wba for each 1 to 3 effective days. Effective days: fourth and each subsequent day of total unemployment in week for which not more than \$300 is paid.

¹²To 58.5% State aww if claimant has nonworking spouse; 65.5% if he has dep. child, Ill.; 1/19-1/23 up to 65% of State aww for claimants with dep, Iowa; 1/46 of wages in highest 2 qtrs. if the trust fund balance is at least \$90 million, or at 1/52 of wages in highest 2 qtrs. if the trust fund balance is less than \$90 million, Del.; a State aww ranging from 60% to 66-2/3% depending on the balance in the fund, Minn.; wages in the 2 highest qtrs. divided by 45, Vt.; if HQ wages exceed \$4,966.99, the max. wba will be 33% of these wages divided by 13, Calif.; 1/25 of HQ if alternative qualifying wages are used, Ga..

¹³Up to 66-2/3% of State aww, La. 62% of State aww depending on the trust fund reserves or 65% of State aww depending on trust fund reserves and the State's average contribution rate if below the nationwide average for the preceding yr., N.Dak..

¹⁴Duration can be much less than 26 wks. for individuals with only one BP ER, Okl..

¹⁵\$1,500 in any CQ in current or preceding CY unless otherwise specified.

¹⁶Max. amount adjusted annually: by same percentage increase as occurs in State aww (Ohio) by \$7 for each \$10 increase in average weekly wage of manufacturing production workers (Texas).

¹⁷The min. and max. wba's are frozen indefinitely, La.. The max. wba is frozen until May 1995, Maine, until 1997, Mich..

¹⁸Wba's will be reduced by 5% or by the reduction determined by a trigger mechanism, but the wba may not be reduced to less than half the max. wba, Pa.; wba's over \$90 will be reduced to 85% of the computed amount when revenues in the fund are inadequate to pay benefits, Wyo.; the greater of \$197 or 60%, 57.5%, 55%, 52.5% or 50% of State aww of the second preceding CY depending on the condition of the fund, Okl.; if the trust fund balance is less than \$165 million but more than \$150 million, the max. wba will be \$245, if the trust fund balance is less than \$150 million but equal to or greater than \$90 million, the max. wba will be \$225, and if the trust fund balance is less than \$90 million, the max. wba will be \$205, Del..

¹⁹Qualifying wages are 200 times min. hourly wage in 1 qtr. and BP wages of 1-1/2 times HQ, however the BP wages must be at least 400 times min. hourly wage, R.I.; with min. aww, greater of 21 times the min. hourly wage in effect on Feb. 4, 1991, or \$80, N.Y.; BP wages of 1-1/2 x HQ or wages in 3 of the 4 qtrs. in the BP, Nev.; claimant with BP earnings outside HQ of less than the lesser of 6 x wba or \$900 will not be eligible for benefits, Tenn..

²⁰As a result of a recent Michigan Court Appeal decision, the min. amount of earnings needed to establish a credit wk. was reduced, therefore the wages needed in each wk. changed from 30 to 20 x State min. hourly wage, Mich..

²¹Effective March 27, 1994, maximum wba is \$214, N.H..